

and prospective House Leader. We look forward, of course, to continuing our usual amiable relationship.

With regard to the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Côté) who now has the responsibility of salvaging the operations of the Post Office, I must say something about this apparent sacrifice on his part, namely, that it seems a little mysterious. But perhaps, like some other mysteries, it will be cleared up in due course.

As to the new Parliamentary Secretaries, of course I congratulate them and extend my deepest sympathy to the former Parliamentary Secretaries as well as to their wives and families.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said he was going to make an announcement regarding changes in the cabinet. I think that most members will consider this to be a very gentle shuffle rather than a change. But it does provide an opportunity to pay tribute to one minister who is no longer here, namely, the former Minister of National Defence, Mr. Cadieux, and to say that we all agree with the Prime Minister that he was popular in all parts of the House and that with him go our best wishes for his success in the diplomatic field.

I will not deal with each of the ministers who has been moved around except to say to the Prime Minister, particularly for those who are concerned about the agricultural situation on the Prairies, that it seems to me that the Wheat Board has been passed from hand to hand over the years. First it was with the Department of Trade and Commerce, then with the Department of Agriculture, then went back to the Department of Trade and Commerce, then was under a Minister without Portfolio, and now it will be under the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Lang). What the relationship is between these two responsibilities is difficult for one to conjure, but it seems to me that responsibility for the Wheat Board could very easily have been given to one minister in view of the very serious situation in the grain marketing business in Canada at the present time. I still hope that the Prime Minister will give some thought to seeing that a full-time minister devotes his attention to this very difficult task.

● (2:30 p.m.)

Mr. Trudeau: Would you like me to name yet another minister?

Ministry Appointments

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): If the Prime Minister wishes to consult me at any time with regard to a possible nominee I certainly will be glad to assist him. I might even be able to suggest someone who knows something about the marketing of grain.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I say to the Prime Minister that after his changes I am reminded of the famous words of Pythagoras, the Greek philosopher, who said that the more things change the more they are the same.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt whatsoever that the best notice given by the right honourable prime minister (Mr. Trudeau) today is that of the three by-elections on November 16.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Caouette: Also, on behalf of my colleagues and on my own, I wish to congratulate the new portfolio incumbents, as well as the new parliamentary secretaries. I thought that the Finance Minister (Mr. Benson) would be replaced, but he has been kept to cope with the national problems.

Mr. Speaker, the newly-appointed parliamentary secretaries, according to some newspaper comments, are an injection of new blood. I note, among them, people who are set on serving the public well and that is why I congratulate them.

Finally, we are happy to hear that the former Minister of National Defence, hon. Léo Cadieux, has been appointed Canadian ambassador to France. Everybody called him Léo. We never called him Mr. Minister. He was everybody's friend. In my opinion, all hon. members were pleased by the news of his appointment. We wish him a long stay there and we are sure that he will be a worthy representative of Canada, his country and ours.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.